

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of :  
Simon Lodewijk SCHARPÉ :  
Ingrid A.J. DE MEESTER :  
Anne-Marie V.R. LAMBEIR : SERINE PEPTIDASE MODULATORS  
Koen J.L. AUGUSTYNS :  
Achiël J.M. HAEMERS :  
Filip J.A. GOOSSENS :  
Dirk F. HENDRIKS :  
Alexandre A. BELIAEV :

Serial No. Not Yet Assigned :

Filed Concurrently Herewith :

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
April 18, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please insert section headings and amend specification paragraphs as follows. (Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121, marked-up versions of the amended specification paragraphs are attached.)

**On page 1, after the title, please insert the following section heading and specification paragraph.**

**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a continuation of United States Application Serial No. 09/623,752, received September 8, 2000 which is the national phase of International Patent Application No. PCT/EP99/01617, filed on March 9, 1999, entitled "Serine Peptidase Modulators" and designating, *inter alia*, the United States, which claims priority to European Patent Application Serial No. 98200733.8, filed March 9, 1998.

**On page 4, after the second complete paragraph, insert the following section heading:**

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

**On page 5, please delete the second complete paragraph and insert the following replacement paragraph:**

It was then found that compounds of the present invention are very potent modulators, in particular inhibitors, of serine peptidases/proteases in general and DPP IV, DPP II, PO, FAP $\alpha$ , lysosomal Pro-X carboxypeptidase and elastase in particular.

**On page 5, after the third complete paragraph, insert the following section heading:**

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT**

**After the paragraph bridging pages 23 and 24, insert the following section heading:**

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

REMARKS

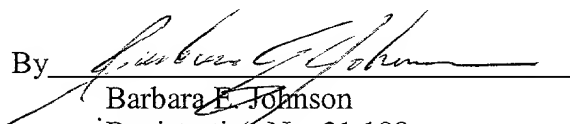
The specification has been amended to place the application in conformance with standard United States patent practice.

Examination and allowance of pending claims 1-26 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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**MARKED-UP AMENDED SPECIFICATION PARAGRAPH**

**Page 5, second complete paragraph**

It was then found that compounds [as claimed in claim 1] of the present invention are very potent modulators, in particular inhibitors, of serine peptidases/proteases in general and DPP IV, DPP II, PO, FAP $\alpha$ , lysosomal Pro-X carboxypeptidase and elastase in particular. [The compounds as listed in claim 12 were found to be potent inhibitors of DPP IV and PO.]